

**MLK Commission Meeting Minutes**  
**10:00 am, March 23, 2017**  
**3rd Floor Conference Room, DOA Building**  
**116 West Jones Street, Raleigh NC 27607**

**Present:** Bailey, Jarvis, Partee, Smith, Jeffers, Henderson, Futrell, Freeman, Ealy

**Absent:** Harshaw, Dudley, Stowe, Turner, Sturdivant, Posey

**Guests:** Secretary of North Carolina Department of Administration Machel Sanders, Deputy Secretary of North Carolina Department of Administration Christy Agner, Interim Executive Director of Human Relations Commission Philip Jordan, Intake Specialist Lauren Kenion.

Call to Order - Meeting was called to order by Chairman Henderson at 10:20 am.

Invocation - Commissioner Futrell led the group in prayer. Pledge of Allegiance - Recited by all

Welcome/ Roll Call - Chairman Henderson Review\Approval of Minutes of 1.13.17 - Commissioner Smith moved and it was seconded by Commissioner Partee. Minutes approved as submitted.

Special Welcome to Deputy Secretary of Department of Administration, Christy Agner. Ms. Agner stated her purpose in being in the meeting today is to listen and help identify resources needed to the MLK Commission to allow continued success. Chairman Henderson asked what is official process for requesting additional funding to Commission for grants. Ms. Agner stated she and Philip could assist the Commission to identify legislators and stakeholders to serve as advocates for the Commission when seeking additional resources and funding. Commissioner Bailey asked what information could the commission provide to assist with that outreach. Staff offered that the Legislature likes to see program outcome goals and measurements when considering resource additions.

Topics for Discussion: State Employees MLK Jr. Observation and John Larkins Award. Chairman Henderson recommended all state employees that were nominated for The John R. Larkins award, should receive a letter of recognition for being nominated by the MLK Commission. Commissioner Jarvis moved that a letter be sent to all nominees congratulating them on their nomination and it was seconded by Commissioner Partee. Mr. Jordan stated that he would ensure the letters were sent out.

State Employees MLK Program January 2017 Commissioner Bailey, Jones, and Chairman Henderson discussed planning efforts leading to the January 2017 State Employee MLK program. Commissioners raised concerns about planning conducted in December being altered just prior to the January event. Commissioner Jarvis suggested the MLK Commission plan a separate program from the State Employee program. Respecting that the MLK program key words are "State Employees" Program and that we can come as support and provide funding, however create an additional and separate program that would allow the Commission more planning autonomy. Commissioner Partee discussed desired improvement in the involvement of the Commission at the State Employees Program. Commissioner Freeman stated he has served on two commissions and lack of communication happens frequently, but improvements can be made to improve communications between commissions and the planning committees. Commissioner Smith stated the Commission's goal is to be recognized not as a Commission by name, but of service and to carry out the MLK Commission name in all communities.

Education/Outreach Initiative of the MLK Commission 2016-17 MLK Grants - Grant contracts for 2016-2017 awardees have been given to DOA for review; once approved, funding will be dispersed. Chairman

Henderson wanted to ensure all grantees were made aware prior to receiving their grants, that there is a time frame for approval before they will receive the monetary award. Those who submitted a grant and were not selected did receive a letter inviting them to apply again the next year.

Content of Character Workshop - Commissioner Partee moved and Commissioner Futrell seconded, that the Content of Character Workshop be held at First Calvary Baptist Church in Durham, NC. Commissioner Jarvis, Futrell, Jones, Jeffers will serve as planning committee. The two partnering nonprofit organizations will be Thomas Mentor Leadership Academy and First Calvary Baptist Church.

Education/Presentation by Commissioner Jeffers - Commissioner Jeffers attended a production of "I Dream", the Opera in Rocky Mount, NC. The cost is \$86,000 to bring the opera to the area. She feels it is obtainable by partnering with other organizations and would be a great opportunity for the commission to consider. Commissioner Jeffers also had her annual "I have a Dream" talent show and gave away \$1,000 to three local organizations. Commissioner Jarvis thanked Commissioner Jeffers for her commitment and hard work representing the Commission.

Additional Action - Commissioner Jarvis suggested that the commission create their own program for the month of January/February honoring Dr. King. Motion was made by Commissioner Jarvis and seconded by Commissioner Partee. Commissioners Jarvis, Smith, Futrell, and Bailey to serve on committee to develop the program. Chairman Henderson asked that this committee have a report together by our next meeting.

Closing Prayer - Commissioner Smith

Adjournment - Chairman Henderson - next meeting will tentatively be in held in May.